

SENATE BILL SUMMARY

Prepared by the Division of Legislative Information for the Senate Bill **AS ORIGINALLY FILED**. For more detail, see Senate Bill Analyses, if available, prepared by the Senate's professional committee staff.

SB 150

Sports Coaches/Criminal History Screening by Senator Ring

Requires the sanctioning authority of an independent youth athletic team, before a person is hired or recruited as a sports coach, to screen the person through the public website on sexual offenders and predators maintained by the Department of Law Enforcement and the Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender Public Website maintained by the United States Department of Justice. Requires the sanctioning authority to disqualify any sports coach appearing on either registry.

Allows an applicant who is disqualified from acting as a sports coach based on the screening to appeal to the sanctioning authority the accuracy and completeness of any information contained in the screening report. Allows an applicant appealing his or her disqualification to be placed on probationary status pending resolution of the appeal.

Requires each sanctioning authority to sign an affidavit annually, under penalty of perjury, stating that all persons who have applied for a position as a sports coach of an independent youth athletic team under its jurisdiction have been screened.

Creates rebuttable presumptions in a civil action brought against a sanctioning authority in which it is alleged that the sanctioning authority was negligent in the hiring of a sports coach because of sexual misconduct committed by the sports coach. Presumes that the independent youth athletic team was not negligent in hiring the sports coach if the sanctioning authority conducted the required screening and made a reasonable effort to contact references. Creates a rebuttable presumption that the youth athletic team was negligent in hiring the sports coach if the sanctioning authority failed to comply with the requirements.

Provides legislative intent encouraging sanctioning authorities for youth athletic teams to participate in the Volunteer and Employee Criminal History System as authorized by the National Child Protection Act and state laws. (See bill for details)